

THE POWDER BAG

“THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION INC.” NEWLETTER

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“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”

George Washington

“We can never do a kindness too soon, for we never know when it will be too late”

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Commander: COL (RET) Tony Radice
Executive Officer: 1SG (RET) Ed Powell
Adjutant: 1SG (RET) Joe Scioli
Finance Officer: CW4 (RET) Jack Elberson
Logistics Officer: CPT (RET) Marc Kantor

THE CAMDEN LIGHT ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Starting off the year with a successful Dining Out is a step in the right direction followed by the restructuring and refining of our By-Laws gives one a feeling of un-explainable satisfaction. The back end of that satisfying feeling is the realization that you cannot accomplish much if you don't spend time doing it. And that's the point. We need to spend time accomplishing what we set out to do! The one commodity we can never recovery. We hopefully wish someone would grab the baton of time and run with it – but we have had trouble at times identifying who that someone might be. But somehow someone always shows up in the nick of time and the race continues with a resurgence of energy and new ideas. Selecting a new commander and adjutant will be our goal and destiny of the association for this year.

Col (Ret) Tony Radice

SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 6th, 2011 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the Commander at 1900 hours in the museum. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a short prayer was offered by SFC Malik. Our prayers and sincere wishes go out to LTC Jake Parvin, who recently broke his hip; for COL Jerry Minchin recovering at home; for SFC Bill Dare who is in the hospital in Florida; Marie Honrychs and Nancy Strumpfer who are in the recovery stage. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The financial report was presented which identified a balance of \$2,960.49 in our treasury.

Commander's Report: It has been determined that the 2012 Dining Out will be held on March 3d at the Tavestock Country Club. As has been the custom in the past four years, small changes will be made to the agenda to insure an interesting and enjoyable evening is had by all. Our success depends largely on the support we get for our AD book which helps to defray the cost of the event by keeping the price of the tickets constant.

Museum Report (CW Elberson): CW4 Elberson, the museum curator, continues to make small improvements. This month Jack has installed a glass door on one of our memorabilia cabinets and other hardware requirements. Although the armory roof continues to be a burden, we continue to make small improvements.

Search Committee Chairman (LTC Bovino): Is in the process of interviewing prospective nominees. He interviewed one prospect this evening.

Financial Review: CPT Strumpfer will present his results upon completion of the review. He has picked his support team to help accomplish his mission.

Armed Forces Day Brunch: CPT Strumpfer informs everyone that Sunday May 22nd at 1000 hours in the Stone Grill in Clementon, NJ has been confirmed as our semi-annual brunch. We hope to see as many of you as possible come out and share food, stories and laughs with one another.

Guest Speaker: We were fortunate to have Joan Pearce, the Family Group Representative from the 119th CSSB address the membership regarding the activities of her organization. They are in the process of conducting a fund raiser to support a welcome home event for 67 returning soldier's from three different units that are currently deployed in Afghanistan. The Association donated \$300.00 towards their efforts and pledged our physical support should they need it.

There being no more items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1945 hours followed by a door prize donated by CPT Kantor and pizza and beverages.

GRANDMA'S HANDS

“Have you ever looked at your hands,” she asked. “I mean, really looked at your hands?” “Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands, though wrinkled, shriveled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life.”

“They held my husband and wiped my tears when he went off to war. They trembled and shook when I buried my parents and spouse. They have held my children and grandchildren, consoled neighbors, and shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand. They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw. And to this day, when not much of anything else of me works real well, these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer.”

“These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of life. But more importantly, it will be these hands that God will reach out and take when he

leads me home. And with my hands, He will lift me to His side and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ.”

I will never look at my hands the same again. But I remember God reached out and took my grandmother’s hands and led her home.

FOURTH OF JULY GROUP TRIP

The Camden Light Artillery Association, in conjunction with Starr Bus Tours, is hosting a three day bus trip to Sturbridge, MA from 3 – 5 July 2011 at a cost of \$399.95 per person.

The trip includes a guided tour of the Mark Twain House in Hartford, CT, a self-guided tour of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA, a backyard picnic on the Lake at the Sturbridge host hotel and a fireworks display from Old Sturbridge Village at dusk.

Anyone interested is requested to telephone Nancy Smith-Kozic at 609 587-0626, Extension 1402 or 1 800 782-7703 for reservations. When calling, please mention Tony Radice’s name so that we may be grouped together.

So mark your calendars and make plans to share three days of fun and laughs with one another.

WINTER STORM

I’ve just heard from a friend in Western Montana. He says it has been snowing heavily for a week now. His mother in law has done nothing but stare through the window.

If it doesn’t stop soon, he will probably have to let her in.

MILITARY EVENTS IN APRIL

1832 – The Black Hawk War begins.

1861 – Rebel forces fire on Fort Sumter.

1865 – Lee surrenders at Appomattox.

1898 – US declares War on Spain.

1917 – US enters World War I.

1965 – US forces invade the Dominican Republic.

1970 – US forces invade Cambodia.

1893 – The Aviation Branch is established.

1987 – Special Forces become a separate branch of the Army.



FAMILY SUPPORT REMINDER

It is important to remember that we still have soldiers on Active Duty in a combat zone and those that have returned who have not been able to forget they were there. It's also appropriate to remember the families they left behind.

WORLD WAR I CONTINUED

(This is the fifth of a twelve part set of short comments on Wars fought beginning with the American Revolution through the Iraq War)

Segregation was still the norm during WWI when the all-black 369th Infantry Regiment, popularly known as the Harlem Hellfighters, was organized. These men received little training prior to their arrival in France in December 1917, where they were immediately put to work doing manual labor. The following March they were attached to the French army and deployed as a combat unit. Though most African-American troops served in support, the 369th spent 191 days in combat-longer than any other American unit. The French government, impressed by their valor, awarded the Croix de Guerre to 171 of the unit's members. The French were also impressed by the 369th regimental band, led by James Reese Europe, which exposed European audiences to the syncopated rhythms of American jazz for the first time.

USEFUL PHRASES AT WORK

Yes, I am an agent of Satan, but my duties are largely ceremonial.

No, my powers can only be used for good.

How about never? Is never good for you?

I'm really easy to get along with once you people learn to worship me

You sound reasonable...time to up my medication.

FOR ALL MOMS EVERYWHERE

This is for all the mothers who taught their children to be peaceful, and now pray they come home safely.

What makes a good mother anyway? Is it patience? Compassion? Broad hips? The ability to nurse a baby, cook dinner, and sew a button on a shirt all at the same time?

Or is it in her heart? Is it the ache she feels when she watches her son or daughter disappear down the street, walking to school alone for the very first time?

The jolt that takes her from sleep to dread, from bed to crib at 2 AM to put her hand on the back of a sleeping baby?

The panic, years later, that comes again at 2 AM when she just wants to hear their key in the door and know they are safe again in her home?

Or the need to run from wherever she is and hug her child when she hears news of a fire, a car accident or a child dying?

The emotions of motherhood are universal and so our thoughts are for young mothers stumbling through diaper changes and sleep deprivation. And for mature mothers learning to let go.

For working mothers and stay-at-home mothers. Single mothers and married mothers. Mothers with money, mothers without. This is for you all----

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!!

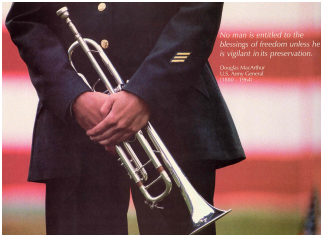
NEVER FORGET THAT

A Veteran – whether Active Duty, Retired, or National Guard or Reserve – is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount of “up to and including my life.”

“No one should pass an American in uniform without saying, “Thank you, we are grateful.” Always mindful that they are prepared to risk all of their dreams so that all of us can reach ours.”

Former Secretary of Defense William Cohen

TO ALL OF OUR FALLEN COMRADES



Each of us has a bank. Its name is TIME. Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balance. It allows no overdraft.

Each day it opens a new account for you. Each night it burns the remains of the day. If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against the “tomorrow.” You must live in the present on today's deposits. Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success!

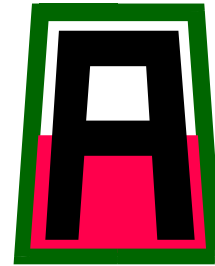
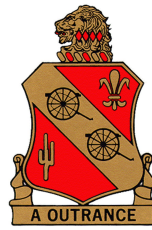
REQUEST YOUR INPUT

I would like to remind you that this is your newsletter. You are cordially invited to submit any information you think appropriate for the good of the command to the Commander (e-mail address on the first page of this newsletter) to be edited for inclusion in the following month's publication.

I WAS A SOLDIER – I AM A SOLDIER – I WILL ALWAYS BE A SOLDIER

Your membership expiration date is on your mailing label (just like a magazine subscription). It's your reminder to pay your dues. Dues are \$20 per year. Send checks to: Camden Light Artillery Association Inc.

**National Guard Armory
2001 Park Blvd.,
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OUR MISSION

- To promote close association, friendship, understanding and cooperation between all member of the association.
- To foster and preserve the spirit, traditions and solidarity of the Field Artillery
- To provide various communicative means for keeping all members aware and involved in association developments.
- To conduct such social activities as may provide for a continuing close relationship and camaraderie among the membership
- To develop and maintain historical records on the lineage of the 1st Battalion 112th Field Artillery ancestors and it successors.
- To promote and support the provisions of the constitution of the United States of America.
- To provide community service to local civilian and military communities in time of need.

WEB SITE

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